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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Initial patent application of:

Thomas J. Foth

Serial No.: 09/474,642

Filed: December 29, 1999

Confirmation No.: 2513

) Date: December 15, 2003

) Attorney Docket No.: F-978

) Customer No.: 00919

) Group Art Unit: 3629

) Examiner: Richard Sukyoon Woo

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING REFUNDS IN A POSTAGE METERING SYSTEM

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 CFR 1.136(a))

Mail Stop RCE
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a petition for an extension of time for a period of two months to respond to the Office Action mailed on July 15, 2003.

A response in connection with the matter for which this extension is requested is filed herewith.

The fee for a two months extension of time is \$420.00. Please charge this fee and any additional extension fee required or credit any excess fee paid to Deposit Account Number 16-1885.

A duplicate copy of this petition is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Shapiro
 Reg. No. 35,677
 Attorney of Record
 Telephone (203) 924-3880

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PITNEY BOWES INC.
 Intellectual Property and
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on December 15, 2003
Date of Deposit

Steven J. Shapiro
Name of Registered Rep.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S J Shapiro".

Signature

December 15, 2003
Date